

Volume 47, Number 3

March 2007

DATES TO REMEMBER

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday March 1, 2007 - 7 PM

No VE Testing - Covered Dish Affair

See notice at bottom of this page.

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Orange Hamfest -

AARA Rayne - May 25 & 26

Each Wednesday

Lunch Bunch 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery

Check 146.820 - repeater for info

Each Monday, 7:00 p.m.

AARA Net 146.820 - 600

Each Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

ARES Net 145.370 - 600 PL 103.5

YL/XYL / Filly Net 146.820 - 600

Each Friday, 1:00 p.m.

HEAL Net 146.820 - 600

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This will be my last message to the LARC membership as your President this term.

We accomplished much as a club this year, with an increase in club membership and actively assisting in licensing new hams and training our fellow hams.

Our project at the Children's Museum of Acadiana (CMA) is in action and only requires completion of antenna installations and scheduling club members to operate at the CMA.

I really appreciate all the chairperson's who took charge of their projects and enlisted the assistance of club members to the great success of the event.

I want to thank all the club members for their patience as I conducted the meeting and for participating in our many special club events.

It was my pleasure to serve you.

Roland NA5Q

President

Welcome New Officers 2007-2008

The AARA held elections for the upcoming 2007 -2008 year at the February 1st General Meeting. The results are as follows:

President: Stratos Imvriotis - KE5DCI

Vice President: Charles Morrison - KI5XP

Secretary: Randy Castille - N5MLJ

Treasurer: Joy Breaux - N5YCS

Board Members

Roland Guidry - NA5Q

Nick Pugh - K5QXJ

Danny Griffith - K5ARH

I am sure that you will give our new officers your full support during the up coming year.

The March General meeting of the AARA will be on Thursday, March 1st in the Atrium of Global Technology Group Building on Ambassador Caffery Parkway. This meeting will primary be the installation of our new officers. All members are asked to bring a covered dish. Please park in the back and enter through the back entrance. If you have not yet paid your dues, this will be a good time to do so. **NO VE TESTING AT THIS MEETING!**

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

AARA OFFICERS 2006-2007

President - Stratos Imvriotis KE5DCI
leles@cox.net

Vice Pres - Charles Morrison KI5XP

Secretary - Randy Castille N5MLJ

Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS

BOARD MEMBERS

Roland Guidry NA5Q

Nick Pugh K5QXJ

Danny Griffith K5ARH

Public Relations Officer

Dagmar Whittemore KE5CGN

Newsletter Editor

Herman Campbell KN5GRK

337-234-5364 - kn5grk@w5ddl.org

The **LARC** is published monthly by the:
Acadiana Amateur Radio Association
P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1st Thursday of
each month at 7:00 p.m. at the
American Red Cross Building
101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

Louisiana QSO Party Results

On Saturday February 10th, the AARA took part in the LA QSO Party. The contest started at 0900 to 2100 CST and again we used the Office of Emergency Preparedness at the Lafayette Parish Courthouse. The AARA would like to thank Bill Vincent and Lafayette Parish for letting us use the facilities.

We operated on 20, 40 and 80 meters phone only using our club call W5DDL. The band conditions were really the "pits" as we only made about half the contacts as we did last year, but I think our competition was really down as we did not hear many Louisiana stations operating, this might help us still be the highest phone score this year. We were the leader last year.

OPERATORS

SCORES TURNED INTO LAQSO SPONSOR

KN5GRK	HERMAN	PHONE	MULTI	PTS
NA5Q	ROLAND	20M	232	26
WA5TNK	ED	40M	76	11
KE5CGN	DAGS	80M	30	6
KE5JXC	ARNOLD	SUB TOTAL	338	43
KE5AWZ	MIKE	BONUS POINT	W5YL	100
KA5BSE	JOHN	TOTAL POINTS		14634
KB5SMX	MAUREENA	Sponsors of the 2007 LAQSO Party Thibodaux Amateur Radio Club Thibodaux, Louisiana		
KE5JKD	LARRY			
KE5KJF	SANDRA			
KE5KEZ	RACHEL			
KE5CKT	SHANNON			
W5JHC	JOHN			

Margo Williams KE5KEY SK

Our deepest sympathy to announce one of our club members becoming a Silent Key. Mary Williams KE5KEY passed away on Monday, February 19, 2007 at 8:00 PM at Lafayette General Medical Center in Lafayette.

Mary attended several of our General Meeting and a very outgoing member and was loved by all that knew her. She will greatly be missed. Our prayers are with her family and friends.



HEAL NET FEBRUARY REPORT

The Hospital Emergency Area Linked Net is starting their third month on 146.820 on Friday afternoon at 1300 local time. Rachel Wilson KE5KEZ has been the NCS for most of the nets and handles it like a pro. The February 16th net was called by Kathy Wood KE5KFA and she also did a great job for the first time as NCS.

The net would like to see more facilities checking into the net, it seems that the guest check-ins are out numbering the medical personnel check-ins.

Most of the net is dedicated in educating the members in handling formal NTS traffic. All members and guest should be knowledgeable in handling NTS traffic in case of emergencies such as we had during hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

DATE:	Medical Personnel Check-ins	Guest Check-ins	Medical Facilities Represented	Total time of Net / Traffic
2/02/07	5	2	3	26 min / 1
2/09/07	3	11	3	43min / 1
2/16/07	5	9	3	37min / 3
2/23/07	4	4	4	37min / 4

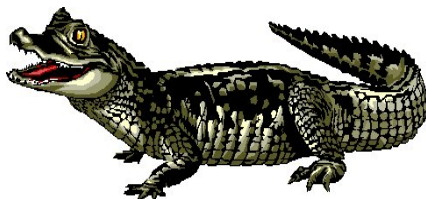
AARA Hamfest 2007 May 25 & 26

The Acadiana Amateur Radio Association will have its 47th Annual Acadiana Hamfest, at the Rayne Civic Center on May 25 & 26, 2007. The Friday Crawfish Boil and Fays Do Do [Cajun Dance] will be held again, due to the tremendous success of this event in previous years.

This is the earliest booking we could get for the Rayne Civic Center, but one thing, the Crawfish should be more plentiful. Check our website for more info.

The Alligator Lesson

by Marie L. Aubin



To me, my mother, Virgie, has always been a source of optimism and inspiration. As a child of the Great Depression, she learned early to “make do or do without”. She can make the most of anything. Colorful sheets did double duty as tablecloths and curtains. Over-abundant pears disguised with cinnamon and brown sugar became “apple” pies. “Say a prayer to the Blessed Virgin, Cher” has often been a suggestion to alleviate some worry. Friends and neighbors can attest that a pot of coffee, a plate of tea cakes and Jimmy Buffet on the CD player is an instant party. She has taught me that anything is possible, that “maybe” can become a “yes”.

In mid-December, Mom and I decided to take a drive along the Creole Nature Trail in Cameron Parish. We were astounded by thousands of waterfowl, admired the wild open beauty of the area and felt humbled by the determined spirit of residents rebuilding after Hurricane Rita. Well into a game of counting chicken hawks (which I was winning), Mom said with enthusiasm, “maybe we will see an alligator today”. Being reasonable, I answered, “Mom, it’s almost winter. When the weather turns cold, alligators go into hibernation. I wouldn’t get my hopes up”.

Soon a visitor’s center came into sight. Being the only visitors, the wildlife agent took his time and gave us a thorough tour of the facility. Did we have any questions? Here was Virgie’s chance to ask an expert! “As a matter of fact, yes! Do you know if alligators are still out?” The agent smiled and shook his head. “No, ma’am. During cold weather, they hibernate underground in burrows just like bears. They’ll come back out when the days get warm.

Enthralled in our sight-seeing, we easily lost track of time. Hunger is a good reminder. A delightful cafe in the town of Cameron served us the most delicious fried shrimp. Our waitress explained how our shrimp came off the boat from across the street that very morning. A lover of conversation, Virgie described our trip and her hopes of seeing an alligator. I anticipated our waitress’s answer, “No ma’am, it’s too cold. They sleepin’ down in the mud.”

The day was getting long. It was time to head for home but we made time for one more scenic drive. “Wouldn’t it be something if we saw an alligator?” I had to laugh. “OK, Mom, if we see an alligator, you win the day!!” Within five minutes, she pointed and asked, “Oh, Ree, what do you call that? Stretched out in the late fall sun, covered in mud, was an alligator. **“I WIN!”**

Mom’s simple lessons have made the greatest impact in my life. Make the most of what is given. Delight in your surroundings. Appreciate the little things. Love those around you. Have faith..and never, ever stop looking for alligators.

(Editor’s note: Marie is the daughter of Virgie N5JXV & Warren K5DVQ Aubin (SK) who are well known to many of our ham radio readers. Virgie and Marie are familiar attendants at many of the Louisiana hamfests and are loved by all. This article was recently published in the Morning Advocate.)

February VE Testing Results

At the February 1st General Meeting we had the following results:

Roland L. Broussard passed his Technician license. New call sign KE5MLA.

Larry J. Leblanc KE5KJD passed his General theory test.

Two people tried for their Extra but failed to pass.

At the Sunday February 25th special VE test session we had the following results.

—0—

The results of the Special VE Testing and Upgrade session on Sunday, February 25th is as follows:

Upgrades from Technician to General Class:

Glenn Breaux KD5NVC
Joshua C. Rogers KE5GDZ
Carle Stebbins KD5TCJ
Arnold Lemaire KE5JXC
John L. Winn KE5EEO
Michael R. Flannagan KE5AWZ

Upgrades from Technician to Extra Class:

Stratos Invriotis KE5DCI
Larry J. LeBlanc KE5KJD

Congratulations to all.

VE Testing Officers

Danny Griffith K5ARH
Roland Guidry NA5Q
Rick Breaux N5LRM
Albert Fabacher KF5WP

About the ARRL

ARRL is the national membership association for Amateur Radio operators.

The seed for Amateur Radio was planted in the 1890s, when Guglielmo Marconi began his experiments in wireless telegraphy. Soon he was joined by dozens, then hundreds, of others who were enthusiastic about sending and receiving messages through the air--some with a commercial interest, but others solely out of a love for this new communications medium. The United States government began licensing Amateur Radio operators in 1912.

By 1914, there were thousands of Amateur Radio operators--hams--in the United States. Hiram Percy Maxim, a leading Hartford, Connecticut, inventor and industrialist saw the need for an organization to band together this fledgling group of radio experimenters. In May 1914 he founded the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) to meet that need.

Today ARRL, with approximately 152,000 members, is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the United States. The ARRL is a not-for-profit organization that:

- * promotes interest in Amateur Radio communications and experimentation
- * represents US radio amateurs in legislative matters, and
- * maintains fraternalism and a high standard of conduct among Amateur Radio operators.

At ARRL headquarters in the Hartford suburb of Newington, a staff of 120 helps serve the needs of members. ARRL is also International Secretariat for the International Amateur Radio Union, which is made up of similar societies in 150 countries around the world.

ARRL publishes the monthly journal QST, as well as newsletters and many publications covering all aspects of Amateur Radio. Its headquarters station, W1AW, transmits bulletins of interest to radio amateurs and Morse code practice sessions. The ARRL also coordinates an extensive field organization, which includes volunteers who provide technical information for radio amateurs and public-service activities. In addition, ARRL represents US amateurs with the Federal Communications Commission and other government agencies in the US and abroad.

Membership in ARRL means much more than receiving QST each month. In addition to the services already described, ARRL offers membership services on a personal level, such as the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator Program and a QSL bureau.

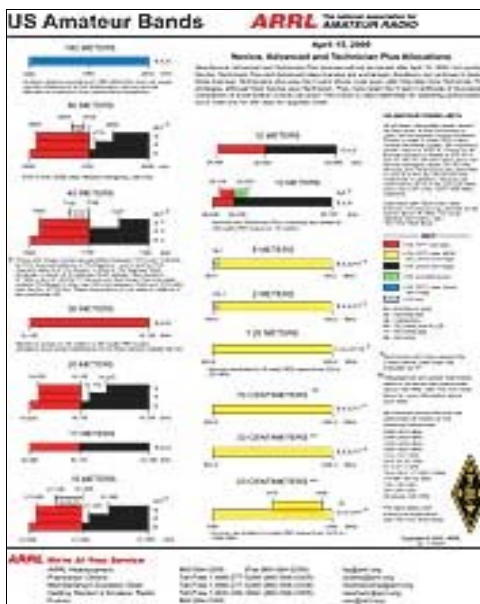
Full ARRL membership (available only to licensed radio amateurs) gives you a voice in how the affairs of the organization are governed. ARRL policy is set by a Board of Directors (one from each of 15 Divisions). Each year, one-third of the ARRL Board of Directors stands for election by the full members they represent. The day-to-day operation of ARRL HQ is managed by an Executive Vice President.

No matter what aspect of Amateur Radio attracts you, ARRL membership is relevant and important. There would be no Amateur Radio as we know it today were it not for the ARRL. We would be happy to welcome you as a member! (An Amateur Radio license is not required for Associate Membership.) For more information about ARRL and answers to any questions you may have about Amateur Radio, write or call:

ARRL--The national association for Amateur Radio
225 Main Street
Newington CT 06111-1494
Voice: 860-594-0200
Fax: 860-594-0259
E-mail: hq@arrl.org
Internet: <http://www.arrl.org/>

Prospective new amateurs call (toll-free):
800-32-NEW HAM (800-326-3942)
You can also contact us via e-mail at
newham@arrl.org.

You can download the new band plan chart by going to the ARRL website at:
<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bands.tm>



3/09	KE5LBZ	SANDI
3/15	KE5EEO	JOHN
3/23	KE5KHP	PAUL
3/25	KE5LAX	JOSEPH
3/27	KB5SMX	MAUREENA
3/31	KE5LBD	KEVIN
4/01	W5QEP	ROGER
4/06	KE5JXC	ARNOLD



Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership application, this is why some may not be listed.

FOR SALE

Icom TH 225A 2 Meter Handi Talky with manual, rubber duckie and wall charger and one good rechargeable battery. \$85.00 It is in excellent physical and electrical condition.

Yaesu FT-470 dual band 2 and 440 with antenna and copy of manual. It is in working condition but is "well used". I bought it used. It comes with wall charger and one good battery \$50.00

Yaesu Memorizer old 2 meter mobile. With mike if I can find it. Workhorse but old rig \$75.00. Cannot find the manual.

Radio Shack HTX-400 440 handheld. Works fine. Battery pack uses standard AA batteries \$50.00

Art K5FNQ k5fnq@cox.net
337-981-0301

I have an Icom IC-2100H 2 meter FM transceiver for sale. Price \$120.00.

Good condition, no scratches and works! Manual, Original box, Icom Hand microphone and accessories included.

Roland NA5Q na5q@w5ddl.org

Interesting Things You Might Want to Know!

SELARC VE Testing

Southeast LA Amateur Radio Club VE tests are scheduled for the last Sunday of each month in Room "B" of the North Oaks Medical System Diagnostic Center in Hammond, LA. All sessions are on Sundays from 2 PM to 5 PM with \$14 testing fee. Bring your photo ID and any appropriate CSCE's. See their website for more info at: <http://www.selarc.org>

LUNAR ECLIPSE

Something you might be interested in seeing. The next lunar eclipse will take place on March 3, 2007. The phenomenon will be visible from parts of all seven continents including the eastern half of North America.

The next lunar eclipse will take place in 2025, so this may be the last one for all us "ole timers" to get to see. For more information, check out the NASA website at:

KOSOVO - Financial Times reports that Kosovo is "set to declare statehood in months." In a January 27th report, the Times says Kosovo will "declare independence in the next few months with the tacit backing of the EU and NATO, in an eight-year impasse on the status of the province." The Times says senior western diplomats say the EU and NATO countries will then recognize Kosovo as independent. Kosovo currently uses the YU8 prefix and, notes W3UR, "There aren't many of those on the air."

AARA March 2007 Calendar

March 1	AARA General Meeting @ 7:00 PM - Global Technologies Group Building on Ambassador Parkway - Covered Dish - Installation of new officers for 2007-2008. No VE Testing
March 17	8:00 AM to 3:00 PM Technician Classes at the Grant-Mollet Complex classrooms at the corner of South College Dr. and Heyman Blvd.

March Special Events & Contests

March 1-4	KA9NLX - To honor US Peace Corps volunteers past and present.
March 3	N4TAO - Celebrating "March 3, 2007 Lunar Eclipse".
March 2-3	W7S - Read Across America Dr. Seuss Night.
March 3-4	ARRL International DX Contest (Phone).
March 10-11	K4M - 145th Anniversary Battle of Hampton Roads & USS Monitor Center Opening.
March 15-25	KU9UUU - Discovery of Puerto Rico.
March 17	W4BKM - 25th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival.
March 31-April 1	N7UW - Operating from the highest university in the US—elevation 7,250 feet. University of Wyoming.

Check QST or ARRL Website for details and QSL information.

Lafayette Gets OK For Fiber Optics

It looks like the long fight for fiber optics in Lafayette has finally received the go-ahead.

The Louisiana Supreme Court cleared the way February 22nd for LUS launch its fiber-to-the home project after three years it was introduced.

Lafayette City-Parish Joey Durel said: "By the end of 2008, Lafayette could legitimately be the most connected city in America"

Officials claim LUS can offer phone, cable and Internet for about \$85 a month, lower than rates charged by existing providers such as Cox Communications, BellSouth and satellite companies.

LUS Director Terry Huval that after three years from the first customer is connected, that everyone in the city who wants fiber should be connected.

What does this mean to the ham radio community? It means cheaper rates for television, telephone and Internet service.

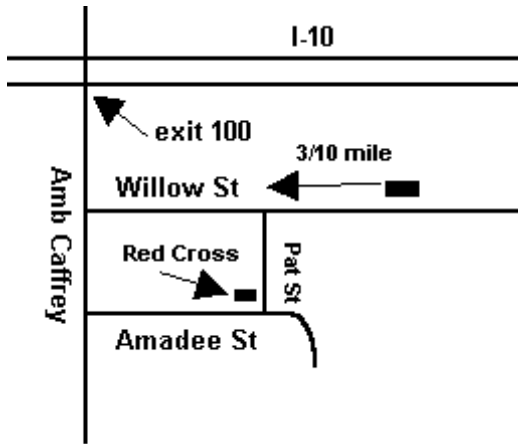
We all have computers and most of us are connected to the Internet. We use Internet to download technical information on radio equipment, looking up call signs, ARRL website, and the list goes on and on. We will now have faster speeds, reliability, and most of all -NO ELECTRICAL INTERFERENCE, such as BPL would have produced.

Herman KN5GRK Editor

Part of this article appeared in The Advertiser on February 23rd, 2007.

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.
P. O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



AARA GENERAL MEETING - March 1, 2007
Atrium of Global Technology Group Building on Am-
bassador Caffery Parkway.
7:00 PM - NO VE TESTING - Covered Dish Affair

COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE

Cajun Salmon Patty Recipe

Submitted by Herman Campbell - KN5GRK

14.75 oz. CAN OF PINK SALMON BONES REMOVED	1 TEASPOON GARLIC SALT
2/3 TEASPOON DILL	1 TEASPOON CAJUN SEASONING
2 TEASPOONS WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE	2 EGGS BEATEN
2 CUPS PREPARED SPANISH RICE	2 TABLESPOONS GRATED PARMESAN CHEESE
2 TABLESPOONS VEGETABLE OIL	1 CUP BREAD CRUMBS

Mix salmon, dill, garlic salt, Cajun spice, rice, cheese, eggs, Worcester-shire sauce and bread crumbs.

In nonstick skillet, heat vegetable oil on medium heat and fry patties on each side until golden brown.

If you have a favorite recipe and would like to share it with our readers, please submit it to:

Herman KN5GRK
kn5grk@bellsouth.net



FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE

The FCC toll-free (WATS) num-ber for Amateur Radio license in-quiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The num-ber, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Cen-ter, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or ulscomm@fcc.gov.

Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commis-sion, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettys-berg PA 17325-7245